

WWPN BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 12, 2024, | 6:30 PM

Board Members Present:

- Roda Carter
- Denise Chatman
- Linda Walker

Board Members Absent:

- Carlos Benitez

Current Members:

- None

New Members:

- Cindy and Paul (reside on Canton Avenue)

Guest Speakers:

- Winter Park Sustainability Division

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM by President, Roda Carter.

II. Meet and Greet

Guest Cindy and John Sommers, along with Sara Miller and Mia Brady (Sustainability Manager) from the City of Winter Park Sustainability Division, were introduced. The Board members also introduced themselves, starting with Denise Chatman (Treasurer), Linda Walker (Parliamentarian), and Roda Carter (Chair of the WWPN).

III. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the previous meeting's minutes was tabled until the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

IV. Reports from Winter Park Programs - Sustainability Division

1. Guest Speakers: Mia Brady and Sara Miller

Roda Carter met with Mia and Sara a couple of weeks before the meeting and invited

them to speak at the monthly meeting. Mia and Sara discussed that the department was created in October 2021 and is responsible for overall sustainability as well as management and regulation compliance for the lakes within the City of Winter Park. They talked about their partnerships with local nonprofit agencies, neighborhoods, and other groups within the city to provide outreach programs, activities, and events to help residents access assistance for paying their light bills and obtaining other energy-efficient products. They are also collaborating with Commissioner Craig Russell's nonprofit "Army of Angels" to bring awareness to the community. Mia discussed their access to grant funding that could be a valuable tool for WWPN to gain access to funding. Denise asked Mia if they could work alongside WWPN to put on community events. Mia stated that it's a great idea. Linda Walker spoke about the challenges that will arise because of the long history of mistrust between the city and the West Side of Winter Park. Linda asked for their information and is willing to speak to some of the older generations. Mia and Sara understand the dynamics that exist between the city and the West Side residents.

Overview of WWPN Mission

Cindy and John Sommers wanted to know what the organization is about. Roda Carter accessed the and presented on the overhead screen the website, and pointed out the mission of the organization and highlights of our prior events from inception to date. The different committees were also briefly discussed since we do not have enough members to fill those slots. Roda emphasized the importance of preserving the legacy of the West Side of Winter Park. Denise asked if they needed a paper copy of the by-laws, they were satisfied with the presentation and explanation.

- 2. Fundraising and Outreach:** Linda Walker, Roda Carter, Denise Chatman Roda started discussing fundraising. Linda Walker interjected, stating that we need more members and there is no need to discuss fundraising at this time. Denise stated that we need money for marketing purposes, to which Roda also agreed, noting that we need funds to cover organizational expenses to build and maintain WWPN including the Google account which hosts the server for our website and email domain along with other administrative and promotional costs to cover meetings and promotional events designed to attract new members. Linda suggested that we do not need a website at this time because we do not have enough members and marketing can be done the old-fashioned way. Linda suggested that each current member take a couple of streets close to their residence and go door-to-door to increase membership. We all agreed on that outreach idea. Roda suggested that when doing so, we wear the West Winter Park Neighbors T-shirt to avoid possible confusion when approaching homes. During our discussion we realized that Mia and Sara reside on the West Side of Winter Park, now they are among our newest members and they happily agreed to help in the effort. Two other meeting attendees, Ciny and John also agreed to join as new members and help with walking their neighborhood to door knock.

To demonstrate WWPN's active community engagement which required resources, Roda displayed photos from the website of multiple events and activities that took place over the course of our first year including galvanizing against the Winter Park Commons which led to a petition to modify the plans to satisfy our demands which ended in our favor, the Holiday Potluck event and more. She explained that it is important to create an online presence and to conduct promotional activities in order to draw new members.

Roda proposed a golf tournament fundraising event to benefit the organization, which could help us raise around \$20,000 to \$30,000 (as she spearheaded and chaired a golf fundraising committee for the Orlando Rotary raising \$25,000 for Second Harvest Food Bank in 2023). The timeline to plan this event would be around six months, and the plan is for all board members and current members to work on the event together. This will be discussed in upcoming meetings. The meeting concluded with us all taking a group picture for our social media pages.

Before the meeting closed, each of the 4 guests decided to join as new members!

V. Action Items: None, but the following lists ideas discussed during this meeting should be placed on the Agenda to be voted on during the next meeting, scheduled for June 10, 2024.

- **Divide up areas within the WWPB boundaries for board members and existing members to door knock, hand out flyers, spread the word and invite neighbors to upcoming meetings and join as new members.**
- **Coordinate with the interested members who volunteered and offer the assignment to other members, to schedule the door knocking dates / times for the volunteers.**
- **Golf tournament as the first big fundraising event.**
 - **Come up with proposed dates for the event and set the first meeting date for the planning.**

VI. Old Business

- Membership.

VII. New Business

- Fundraising.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Denise Chatman

Submitted 06/22/2024