GPNA Board Meeting Agenda – November 10, 2016 6:00 pm

* Call to Order
* Roll Call/Introductions
  + Board members
    - Michael Scholton
    - Angelique DuPhene
    - Mark Moerdyk
    - Daniel VanderMolen
    - Matthew Draft
  + Staff
    - Fran Dalton
  + Guests
    - Cassandra Kobler
* Approval of October 13 meeting minutes
* Guest Presentations
  + Tobacco Free Park Program
    - Cassie Kobler from the Kent County Health Department to present
    - Walking path pamphlets
      * Potential to use in the Summer newsletter
    - Garfield Park was second city park to go tobacco free
    - Looking to expand the program to Dickenson park
      * Board in support of expanding the program
      * All in agreement
    - Board suggests including the bike park in this initiative
    - Intern working on “smoke approach”
      * Non-confrontational way to approach someone who is smoking
* Staff Update
  + MOU with Hispanic Center
    - Ashleigh worked out agreement with the Hispanic Center for advertising in the newsletter in exchange for translation services
  + Story Time in the Park
    - Need a write-up for inclusion in the Winter newsletter
    - Want to make sure residents know of the change of venue from The Dog King to Garfield Park
  + Community Garden 2016 Report
    - We gave away over 300 lbs of fresh vegetables to neighbors in the neighborhood this year.
    - We had two returning members purchase plots this year.
    - We had five individuals volunteer a total of 37 hours to the Community Garden who were signed up through the Community Space Volunteer program.
    - We had a neighbor volunteer 40 hours to the Community Garden this year completing his Master Gardener Certificate through Michigan State Extension.
    - We had around 35 hours of volunteer/playtime time from five of the children who live in the neighborhood.
    - We had over 80 hours of volunteer time from other members of the community this year
    - We worked in connection with Slowfood, who brought two volunteers to work in the Community Garden on their volunteer day this year.
    - We also worked in connection with the Downtown Farmers Market whose greenhouse donated a number of starts and seeds to the garden this year.
    - We added three more perennial beds to the CG this year making a total of five community perennial beds in the garden.
    - The Community Garden tool shed was completed this year.
    - The soil structure is improving from last year.
    - We had a total of 56 different varieties of vegetables and herbs growing in the CG this year.
    - Crime statistics in the area surrounding the Community Garden indicate that non violent criminal activity in the area has decreased from last year during the same timeframe.  The incidents of violent criminal activity has increased due to heightened reporting by neighbors in the area leading to increased involvement and surveillance by the GRPD in the area.
    - An interactive educational experience has been developed and made available to two neighboring schools of the Community Garden.
    - If there are funds available, the Community Garden Coordinator is advocating for the use of those funds to secure a Community Garden
  + Fran is requesting a raise for calendar year 2017
    - Board to discuss and vote
* Old Business
  + Votes taken via e-mail
    - None
* New Business
  + Executive Director Candidates
    - Placed ad in the Grand Rapids Times
    - Phone calls with two candidates, third candidate has not responded
      * Stephanie Smedley
      * Tonya Adkins-McKeever
    - Fran’s Concerns
      * Wants to ensure the west side past Division has better outreach
      * Financial problems from the past occurred due to board not attending to fiscal oversight, need to ensure board continues the oversight
        + Intention is for ED to handle the day to day financials (paying the bills), board continues to look at yearly budgets etc.
    - Both candidates will be interviewed in person
      * Target date of 11/21 and 11/22
      * Michael will schedule
      * Will reach out to community members to join us in the interview process
  + Letter of engagement for accounting services
    - Mark will provide necessary documentation
  + Preventing hate crimes in the community
    - Include write-up in the Winter newsletter
* Committee Reports
  + Newsletter (3x per year – March, June, November)
    - Fall Newsletter (10 Minutes)
      * Would like to include an ad for recruiting GPNA board members
  + Web Site
  + Events
    - Summer Celebration 2017
      * Need to make sure this starts to kick off in December
    - Disc Golf Course Spring Event
      * No updates
  + Crime & Safety Committee
  + Community Preparedness
* Public Comments
  + None
* Adjournment