

Minutes of CONA Meeting
September 16, 1998 7:00 P.M.
McCloskey Room, City Hall
Bloomington, Indiana

Directors Present:

Peter Wright	Larry Crewell	Bill Sturbaum
Eugene Fritz	Fran Moore	Carl Price
Bill Boese	David Walter	Sue Mayer
Pat Aungst	Marjorie Hudgins	Sue Shapiro
Chris Smith	Mark Hood	

Guests: Chris McGuire-Hastings, BUEZ

Important Dates:

Next NAG meeting is scheduled for November 6 at 8:30 a.m.

Next CONA Meeting is November 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the August 19, 1998 meeting were approved.

1. Financial Report: There is a balance of \$704.30 in the checking account. One check was written for \$15.30 to pay for the printing of checks.
2. Bill Sturbaum reported that the Mayor's office would fund the registration fees for two CONA Directors to attend the Regional Neighborhood Association Conference in Lexington, KY on October 1 and 2. David Walter will be attending. Bill Sturbaum asked if anyone else was interested in going. There being no response, then Bill Sturbaum asked if the CONA Directors would support David Walter's expenses for the motel room. Carl Price moved and Bill Boese seconded a motion to reimburse David Walter's expenses up to \$200 for travel, lodging and meals.
3. The IRS has sent a letter to CONA requesting more information about the organization's purposes. There is a list of 20 questions to be answered. Most of the questions ask about the organization's political activities, such as lobbying governmental officials and donating funds to political campaigns. Chris McGuire-Hastings volunteered to assist Bill Sturbaum in answering the IRS's questions.
4. The program for the November meeting may include a presentation from the Indianapolis Greenways. The CSX railroad right of way is available for purchase from Ellettsville to the east side of Bloomington. Cook, Inc. has given some funds to set up a non-profit agency to purchase or develop the right of way. Bill Sturbaum will investigate this rumor further.
5. A brochure from the Indianapolis Leadership Academy. The Academy is funded by a grant from Lilly Foundation. The Academy may be able to assist CONA in training.
6. The next NAG meeting will be held on Friday, October 9. At the last meeting, it was decided that NAG is the best forum for the city to present new proposals to the neighborhood associations. The exchange of information about city initiatives before they are formalized should be of benefit to both. Peter Wright said that at our last meeting he learned that Susie Johnson sends an e-mail summary of her meeting notes to the mayor's office.
7. Storm Drainage: The new fee for storm drainage work will appear on our next water bill. The City Utilities wants to raise \$6 million for repairs to the downtown storm drainage system. Bill Boese said that there is no incentive to study drainage problems though out the city. HAND had \$75,000 in their budget (to be funded from the general fund of the city), but the funds were redistributed to other requests. The Directors agreed that storm drainage problems

occur in all neighborhoods, not only the downtown area. Fran Moore commented that the town was built as if it were on flat ground with no consideration for retention ponds. David Walter stated that his neighborhood had two storm water retention ponds, but neither of them holds water when it rains. Bill Boese and David Walter agreed that meetings with city officials on this problem have not been effective. As new developments occur in the city, more area is paved and the flooding gets worse.

8. Reports from the neighborhood associations:

Majorie Hudgins said that they had discussed with Nancy Heistand preservation of historic homes that happen to be used as rentals in their neighborhood. They wanted to know what programs are available to landlords to assist them in the upkeep and maintenance of their structures. Majorie estimated that 90% of the homes in her neighborhood are rental units.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.