

# **Toonerville Trolley Neighborhood Association Board of Directors**

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 12, 2022

## **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Toonerville Trolley Neighborhood Association (TTNA) was called to order at 7:00 pm on January 12, 2022 by President Clay Webb. The meeting was held via Zoom with a link provided to all board members due to the current restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **Present**

President, Clay Webb  
Treasurer, Zed Saeed  
Secretary, Elyssa Smith  
David Faulkner  
La Bravia Jackson  
Nahom Tsegai

## **Absent**

Vice President, Sid Cook  
Nancy Woodcock  
Laura Neely

## **Introductions**

**David** – lives on Brook and Ormsby and with his partner Dean and currently heads the litter committee but is open to others heading the committee if they'd like

**Zed** – first time having a position on the board, he is the new treasurer and has lots of things to cover today. Has been part of the association over the past year, mostly involved with trash pickup. Has lived on Saint Joseph St since 2014.

**La Bravia** – new on the board and happy to be here. She's lived in Louisville for a very short time, since July and is still going through renovations on her house on First St. Excited to be involved and see what we can do.

**Elyssa** – lives on Ormsby just down from David and has been on the board one year, works on the community support and outreach committee.

**Nahom** – has dogs we might hear. Just moved to Louisville in June with his wife and loves it so far. Lives on first street, down from the pizza shop. Not in any committees yet but excited to join and be involved.

**Clay** – lives on Brook street cattycorner from David. This will be his second year on the board, first year as an officer. We have a lot of new faces on the board, glad we were able to get new people on the board. From Louisville, moved away for about 13 years, has been back for 6 years, first in an apartment, then house. Happy for the year to start and to keep the momentum from last year.

### **Items to add to the agenda**

Added small free pantry to list of items from last year

### **Bylaws & Board Agreement: Clay**

Clay has received most of the board agreements back. For anyone who has not sent it already, please send it in.

### **Treasurers Report: Zed**

Just changed over from Galen who did a great job. Switching over was quite a process, Zed now has everything switched over.

December Report – same format from Galen, will send in advanced in the future

Most notable – trashcan payment, approved from the previous board \$6,125

Locations and photos of installed cans listed in report

Small things

Ft. George maintenance

41 members currently

OLNC membership fees

Current balance \$42,600

Yearly report – generated by Galen end of 2021

Galen had recommended an annual minimum of \$24,000 based on insurance, tree program costs, liability, operations buffer, Springfest seed capital

Zed is unsure if this was approved

**Discussion:** Clay clarified that he requested the recommendation because we didn't spend much last year, but was not approved. Zed thinks this is a good idea to cover us.

**Motion:** Clay moves to keep the recommended minimum account balance.

**Discussion:** La Bravia clarifies that she supports the initiative, but notes that the numbers don't add up. Zed confirms that the total is rounded up from \$23,736. La Bravia requests to round operations buffer up. Zed will make that change.

Clay notes that last year we weren't sure how much we could spend without going too far into the account but that we are spending it on the community. We got lucky last year with the Ft. George grant

David notes when we start Springfest, we may need to drop below this. Clay clarifies that Springfest is listed as a line item in the reserve, for \$3,500.

**Motion:** Elyssa amends previous motion to state that the association will not allow the account to drop below the minimum account balance without a board vote.

**Seconded:** Clay

**Motion carries unanimously**

**Discussion:** Zed wonders if we should move the \$24,000 to another account, same bank but same account. Clay does not think this is necessary as long as it's a line item at end of the account since Zed is the only one who really sees the account. Zed agrees.

**Zed:**

Shares incomes and expenses for 2021

Insurance – we just had regular liability insurance through Farm bureau, we now have a shed (\$4,000) and things inside (\$3,000), updated insurance is \$35 more – so now shed and contents are covered by insurance policy.

Joan (previous treasurer) had insisted that we have an accountant retained throughout the year, but the last few years we did not have an accountant. Zed proposes we have an accountant this year, and that we have an accountant retained throughout the year. We are not experts and there is no oversight, so if there are small mistakes, it is not likely that we will catch it. This makes Zed uncomfortable. He'd like to move forward getting an accountant to connect with once per quarter. He can get estimates for this, if we are interested.

**Discussion:**

Clay thinks this is a good idea. Elyssa suggests seeking someone within the neighborhood and says she will get Zed Joan's contact info. Zed would like a someone on retainer, to watch over his shoulder, will bring costs to the next meeting. La Bravia agrees, we are not professionals but we need to conduct business as professionals. Zed has two contacts that he knows of and will send costs when he receives them. La Bravia wonders what the other associations are doing, who does OLN have? Zed wonders if the treasurers might be CPAs. Clay would like to be part of quarterly meetings with accountant if those are established. Zed that's all.

**Motion:** David motions to approve treasurers report

**Seconded:** La Bravia

**Motion carries unanimously**

## **Meeting dates**

**Board meeting dates:** Clay

First Wednesday of each month at 7 pm

**Neighborhood cleanup: David**

Second Saturday of the month

**Quarterly membership meeting: Clay**

Toward the end of the quarter

At church or at Ft. George?

**Discussion:** Nahom suggests it depends on the weather. Clay would like to do March and asks if we are okay to do one week after our board meeting. Elyssa likes them one week in advance so we can plan the agenda. Clay establishes March 9, which gives us two meetings under our belts and hopefully we can be prepped to request Springfest Volunteers. Elyssa to put dates on our website calendar and Facebook.

**Carryover issues from 2021****Neighborhood banners: Clay**

7 banners to be replaced – \$1,218 – already approved, but have not been paid for

3 banners north of Oak – \$1,005 – not much presence north of Oak, need approved, have not been paid for

**Discussion:** Nahom asks why there is such a difference in price. Clay answers that it is because of the brackets, install, and permits, notes that he can send a breakdown before the next meeting. Clay asks if we want to move forward with that? Elyssa asks if we also have the locations. Clay can get those as well. Elyssa expresses she likes the idea to spread the word about TTNA to areas that are not represented currently in our membership. La Bravia asks how long have the banners we are replacing been up. Clay answers that the new ones are a different company, so they should last longer than the ones we are replacing. Clay suggests we could wait until the 7 go up, then decide. Clay notes he will get the price breakdown and locations for the next meeting and we can vote then.

**Ft. George improvement: Clay**

Install gate – we have not paid for gate, but have approved it. The last group debated if a gate should be installed because it cannot be locked due to the status as a memorial.

When the gates can be closed, many people use it as a dog park.

Hire landscaper – the Millers are moving and had been taking care of it. We got an estimate for \$1,200 – last board approved it, but it has not been signed or finalized so someone will need to take it over and finalize the agreement or seek out another service.

**Small free pantry: Elyssa**

Committee has put together proposal for small free pantry.

Location – Fountain of Life Ministries, Pastor Melanie Hunter

Costs – estimated \$300 for fully installed pantry: \$150 for supplies, \$100 for neighbor to build (Mack Welsh), \$50 for installation

Blueprint options – [littlefreepantry.org](http://littlefreepantry.org), city approval is not needed on private property, final decision on design will be made by Pastor Hunter, Mack, and committee

Stocking – potentially requesting \$150 from TTNA for monthly stocking depending on what is needed after requesting donations (money or items) from the neighborhood and Pastor Hunter and the congregation

Maintenance – Kara and Todd have volunteered to monitor and help maintain, Pastor Hunter and the congregation will also monitor

Signage – we'd like a permanent sign that describes what the pantry is, who can use it, that TTNA and Fountain of Life Ministries maintain it, how they can help contribute. It would also be good to have a seasonal sign with immediate needs. Sign costs are not included in above request.

Notes – would like to have post-it notes for those using the pantry to share needs

Other opportunities with Fountain of Life Ministries.

Every other Saturday the ministry passes out 100 blessing bags with sandwiches/sausages, water, chips, snacks, sanitizers, hats, gloves, masks. Donations can be dropped off at the church on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm or the Saturday of the event at 9am. Big Blessing Event January 29 (setup @8:30, Serving from 11-3pm) – 909 E. Broadway inside the Goodwill Resource Center (Clay St. side). Needs: Ramen noodle bowls, toilet paper, sandwiches (PB&J or Bologna), bags of chips, PB or cheese crackers, peanuts, hand sanitizer, sleeping bags or blankets (new or used), bottled water, hats, gloves, tooth brushes, snack cakes, flashlights, hand/foot warmers. Collecting donations at Fountain of Life Ministries until Saturday, January 22 at 9am. Prepacking items at Fountain of Life Ministries Saturday, January 22 at 9am.

These events will be shared on social media as well as emailed to the neighborhood to raise awareness.

**Discussion** (on small free pantry): Clay is glad we got the church to partner with because he thinks it addresses concerns of those at the last meeting. Elyssa agrees, noting that Todd has forged that relationship and that Pastor Hunter is excited to work with us. La Bravia asks what happens to the last pantry, did it fall apart, who built it, how can we prevent that from falling apart again? Elyssa does not know, just that we offered to fix it up when it was falling about a year ago and did not hear back and it was removed. La Bravia asks if it was vandalism or lack of maintenance. David thinks it was age, it looked like it had reached its lifespan. Zed asks about costs. Elyssa confirms that \$300 is to build and that costs to stock *could be* \$150, suggests we approve that month to month. Zed notes that this seems like it requires fairly active engagement as far as stocking, checking in on it. Is there a point person on our end or the church? Elyssa responds that it will be a joint partnership, suggesting that supplies be kept at the church for stocking. Kara and Todd will also monitor. Some of this will need to be determined as we go, we may be good with just having the church stock supplies, but we may need to stock more often. Zed asks who, specifically, will be the point person. Elyssa confirms she will be the point person between the board and committee but clarifies that the committee will be overseeing the project. Elyssa adds that Jason is working with the Garden of Goodness to get another little free pantry added on 7<sup>th</sup> street.

**Motion:** Elyssa motions to approved \$300 to get pantry built and installed by the end of this quarter.

**Second:** David

**Motion carries unanimously**

Clay notes that people are better at donating when they have specifics, so we should add this to the website and send it out.

**Owners: Clay**

We are missing a few people, but we'll go through what is needed so we can get people signed up for some of these responsibilities

**Emails to neighborhood – Elyssa****Facebook/Instagram – Elyssa**

Email and social media can go hand in hand. Should be sending emails for neighborhood meetings and any other updates.

**Updating website – Elyssa and Nahom**

Meeting minutes go on the website. We have not been putting the treasurers report on the website. Website is on squarespace which is easy to use but is not as accessible. Some of the info is hard to find. If we want to change some things around, we're open to it.

Nahom has worked on non-profits before and feels comfortable working on this. Would be great if it was more user friendly.

**Dog park memberships – Clay**

Our dogpark is part of the Louisville Dogpark Association, but it is not locked because there is not electricity wired out to the dogpark. They still take care of it and maintain it like the others that are \$35/month to use. Because the neighborhood helped when it was built we get free memberships that are good for all parks. Hasn't been sent out lately. Clay needs new membership so will contact Louisville Dogpark Association. Needs list from Zed. Elyssa notes that David suggested getting a sign in the dogpark to attract new members. Clay will ask Louisville Dogpark Association if that possible. Clay notes it would be nice to have electricity over there, but that we would need to pay for it. It would be good to have lights and lock, but he thinks it will be like \$60,000, so it would need to be a grant.

**Committees: Clay**

Clay notes that all board members should be on a committee.

**Community outreach, inclusion, support – Elyssa****Safety / neighborhood watch – La Bravia**

Travis had going to meetings before. Meetings with the local police. La Bravia used to be a prosecutor and knows how to speak police so can do this. Clay will get the information on the meetings, when and where they are. La Bravia asks if they compile incidents for the time period of the meeting. Clay is not sure, but knows the major for the precinct usually comes to OLN meetings and provides lots of information.

**Litter / cleanup / beautification – David**

David will keep this but would like help from others who are interested. David sort of naturally took this on because him and Dean often do litter cleanup on their own. So far, it's just the monthly cleanups, which are great. A goal would be to get people more involved, maybe block by block signups for cleanups, which became very daunting. We also have many blocks with little/no representation. There is a lot of room for growth. There are a lot of people who do cleanups on their own, it would be nice to recognize those people.

### **Ft. George – Nahom**

A lot was done with Ft. George last year, Anna did a lot. This year we need someone to work with the Millers. Get the landscaper agreement finalized. Clay will send Nahom email from Anna on what she did for upkeep. Could be a group that gets together to take care of it ourselves. Maybe a community stock of tools in the shed to sign out. There are also corn hole boards in the shed too, we may want to get more yard games. We need to find out how to get more members involved using the area. A coded lock on the shed with a signout sheet for tools or games?

**Clay** – a few years ago a large tree fell in Ft. George, which is where our emergency line item comes from in the reserve budget, took like \$5 or \$6,000. Now, large tree on right hand side of Ft. George has a hole in it, which is how the last tree rotted and fell. Clay requested estimates from Louisville Tree Service and Limbwalker to take care of the rot and also to just take care of the trees in general.

Louisville Tree Service:

Addressing the hole (trimming) \$1300 + 20% discount for being nonprofit;  
Yearly tree maintenance \$1300

Limbwalker has yet to get estimate, so we will wait to vote on this. It is not at risk of falling right now, so we have time.

**Discussion:** Elyssa asks for clarification on costs. Clay confirms \$1300 is for their assessment on the hole, if they need to trim it, cut it down, fill it. They will check if there is rotting anywhere else in the tree. The yearly fee is just to come out and take all small broken branches, dead limbs, up to the second canopy. We may want to do this on a case-by-case basis. La Bravia asks if costs include if the tree needs to be taken down. Clay says they do not, it will likely be more a bit more. If we can keep the property up and keep the trees healthy we will be in better shape to protect surrounding houses and the new fence.

### **Fundraising**

We didn't do much fundraising last year. Someone here might look for grants that we could use for projects. No one has volunteered.

### **Traffic**

When Sid handled this last year, he learned a lot but noted that there is not much to do. More of a committee to update the board and neighborhood on what is happening. For example, Oak street is about to have a lot of work done, like Broadway. There will be

long stretches where we won't be able to cross. The person who reports on this for OLNK is in our neighborhood, so she might be able to chair this.

### **Springfest: Clay**

Do we want to move forward with Springfest? Kirk has done everything the last couple years. We are already behind on getting things done. It would be best to have 6 people to do this, any fewer it is really hard. Sid will handle food trucks.

**Discussion:** Clay says we need to decide if it should be a handmade show or open it up? Clay thinks it has been working well as handmade, like mini St. James. If not, many booths will sell the same stuff. Elyssa agrees and notes that if someone doesn't have a handmade good they can be a sponsor, but it's good to keep it handmade for vendors. Also, Elyssa can do the social media but will not be here for the weekend of Springfest. Clay will send an email with all that needs to be done. La Bravia wonders if we will all do our part as board members anyways. Clay says we do, but there is a lot that goes into it. Working with the city and sometimes they do not follow through. For example they did not provide a panel for electricity last year, and Krik argued with them so they provided a generator, but otherwise we would have had to pay \$900 for that. Ideally, we could get more people from the neighborhood involved, they do not need to be on the board. Nahom isn't sure what exactly he can help with but would like to get involved. Clay will set a meeting with Kirk and send out the LONG list of todos that Kirk has set up. Getting sponsors is really important, and something we can start will now. Clay will send out info to send to sponsors. La Bravia asks about how it got moved to October. Clay says we collectively decided to move it based on feedback from event organizer that used to live in the neighborhood. Committee – Sid, Nahom

### **Spending \$1,100 on Zapp**

Clay would like to hold off on purchasing Zapp. Thinks it is a lot of money for what it does. The booth fees pay for the system for the vendors to book booths, so we did not make much money from the booth fees. We can discuss more next month.

### **OLNK Rep – Clay, La Bravia, Nahom?**

Clay will not be here for the first OLNK meeting, it's on the 25 at 7:00 at the Old Louisville Visitors Center in Central Park. Old Louisville Neighborhood Council is made up of 14 neighborhood associations within Old Louisville. Talk about things about the neighborhood as a whole, votes on improvements, working with parks department, tree planting. Address some issues similar to a homeowners associations like zoning. There is a new president this year.

### **Discussion:**

Nahom aside from the OLNK meetings is there a lot of communication between the organizations? Clay notes that our OLNK rep will report on issues shared at the OLNK meeting and that any members can go, we just have one vote. Only real votes are for officers, more informative. Elyssa adds that the community committee did reach out to



other neighborhood associations within Old Louisville but we did not hear much back on partnering. The closest is probably West St. Catherine, they do a lot and seemed most interested in potentially partnering. Clay notes that we're the largest area wise, but operate a bit differently than the other associations so any opportunities to partner would be good so we can all work together. Springfest actually used to be an Old Louisville event, but is now just Toonerville.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by La Bravia, second by Clay, all in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm by President Clay Webb. The next meeting of the Board will be on February 2 at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom.

Minutes submitted by: Secretary Elyssa Smith