

**North Salina Community Development, Inc.**  
Salvation Army Community Center  
March 20, 2014  
**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting began at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**Attendance.** Fourteen persons were present including City Commissioner Jon Blanchard; Gary Hobbie, Director of Community and Development Services for the City of Salina; Johnna Voseller, USD 305 Board member and Treasurer of the NSCD and Dina Giron, Human Relations Specialist for the City of Salina. All officers were present.

**Minutes.** The minutes of the February 20th meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report.** There was no transaction to report; therefore, the balance in the checking account remained at \$2921.25. The report was approved.

**Old Business**

**Proposed Conflict of Interest Statements.** Copies were distributed to officers and board members who signed as required by the By - Laws.

**Engagement Grant Report.** David Norlin reported that the next canvas of North Salina residences and businesses by students and other volunteers will be held Saturday March 29th. Training will begin at 9:00 a.m. and canvassing at 10:00 a.m. and continue throughout the afternoon with a lunch break.

**Salina Downtown, Inc. (SDI).** Mike Wilson moved that Greg Stephens be elected as the NSCD liaison to SDI. The motion was seconded by Jeanette Grant and approved. Greg reported that the organization met last Tuesday with 40 - 50 persons attending. Annual awards were presented and there was a general discussion about the downtown area.

**New Business**

A **scheduled discussion** by Melissa Hodges, Executive Director of SDI, Inc. was not presented.

**2014 Hog Roast and Barbeque.** The event will be held Saturday, June 7th in Thomas Park and a planning committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 27th, 5:30 p.m. at Ad Astra. Jeanette will prepare an advertisement that engagement grant canvassers can distribute in North Salina.

**Spring Fix - Up Day.** Gary Hobbie reported that it will be held Saturday, April 12th and about 150 people have registered to help. Some major efforts will be a Smoky Hill River clean-up by the YMCA, the Big Brothers - Big Sisters building and the "5 corners" area. Volunteers should meet at the railroad engine in Oakdale Park and a free breakfast will be offered at 7:30 a.m.

Gary also reported that the family of the person who designed the "5 corners" art will be in Salina May 4th and it would be desirable to have a dedication of the work that day.

He also stated that there is a regulation banning the parking of vehicles in front yards; therefore, city personnel will begin placing green warning notices on vehicles and after May 1st tickets will be issued.

**Strategic Planning Report for 2014.** Because of its length this discussion was moved to this place in the agenda and Jon Blanchard reported the following.

Some issues in North Salina are better street lighting, sidewalks (this may be cost prohibitive), improved streets, economic development, a swimming pool (not much chance of this happening but may add spray areas to existing parks), elementary school (would need significantly more population), farmers' market (for future discussion), family restaurant, tennis courts (perhaps a large park can be built that would offer community activities such as tennis and basketball courts and other features), locally owned businesses, neighborhood gardens (the Grand Avenue church has one and there is a large one North of St. John's Military School).

The following categories were suggested.

A **regional park** of 10 - 15 acres that would include a school, hiking trails, tennis and basketball courts, etc.

**Economic development** that would include a laundromat, grocery store, a school and usage of vacant buildings.

**Youth engagement activities** such as an after school program, outreach, outdoor movies, arts and the involvement of St. John's students.

**Redevelopment planning** such as a land bank (the city might buy foreclosed properties and keep them for future use), land trusts and a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO).

**Community engagement** by participating with the Friends of the River, NAACP, SDI, Chamber of Commerce, K – State - Salina, KWU and others.

**Open Forum.** Mike Wilson briefly discussed the Salina Community Theatre production of Harvey with discount tickets being available for performances on April 5th and 6th.

**Adjournment.** Approximately 8:52 p.m.

**Next Meeting.** This is scheduled for April 17th at the Salvation Army Community Center.