

The 2011 annual WAEDA membership meeting was held Wednesday, January 19, 2011, @ the Washburn Memorial Building. Members in attendance enjoyed a fish fry catered by the Captains' Cabin; and featured Walleye harvested during our summer fishing tournament.

The meeting was called to order by President Donna Sommer; the secretary's report was read and approved as read. MSC Wendy/Luke

The financial report was presented and approved. MSC Newly/Jane

Attendees @ the business meeting included executive director- Karen Hansen , Donna, Jane, Luke, Wendy, Newly, Mike, and Miles and visitors Mike Nelson (Mike Nelson Reality), Todd Norton and Russ Sorenson from Advanced Engineering Services, as well as Russ's daughter, Renee.

Donna presented an excellent review of WAEDA 2010 activities and highlights of activities in progress or planned for 2011. Donna introduced our recently contracted executive director: Karen Hansen. Karen shared some background and some of her visions for her/our future focus. She announced plans for a February 9 community forum to hopefully gather input; and generate community involvement/participation in our future interaction in our community. Karen also informed us of her communication with Bill Bauman of the Missouri Valley Family, YMCA regarding the possibility of a cooperative effort to establish a community fitness center and associated programs. She is currently watching for a possible site for this possible project.

Mike Nelson (Mike Nelson Reality) visited with the group and appealed for a WAEDA effort to help stimulate realistic affordable development of the Heritage Heights residential lots; which are in the process of being returned to city ownership.

Brief discussion was held regarding the community need for expanded daycare services. It was generally agreed that we should devote time to “daycare discussion” only if solutions or specific proposal are brought to the meeting.

Karen distributed a member survey that she hopes will assist her in getting a grasp of community needs and visions.

Election was conducted to fill expired terms of Miles Gradin and Wendy Spencer on the board of directors. Miles and Wendy were reelected to 2 year terms by unanimous ballot.

Luke then presented his recommendations that WAEDA directors make an effort to focus on a limited number of specific “real needs” relative to economic development and try to spend less valuable time dealing with trivialities where our influence is ineffectual or not needed. He suggested that an area where our influence might help generate honest economic development would be –encouraging and assisting further residential and commercial development of the Heritage Heights lots and the adjacent Renner property.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned. MSC
Mike/Jane.

Secretary,
Miles Gradin

