

West Central Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

July 20th, 2026, 7:00pm

Attendance: 29 people

Kelly Benton (Vice-President) welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced board members, and reviewed the mission and new vision of the WCNA:

To preserve and promote a unique, historic neighborhood defined by its connected community, rich architecture, and outstanding livability for all.

Welcome & Introductions

Joel Sauer, President is gone today. Kelly is leading the meeting in his place.

Yesterday in West Central: Ely Hoffman House with Dodd Kattman

See slides (including photos) on the website:

<https://westcentralneighborhood.org/association-board-meetings/2026-minutes/>

- 624 W Wayne St, constructed or renovated in 1892
- Ely Hoffman and his brothers invented a band saw in the mid 1800's
- The home changed address several times
- This house is in the National Historic District, but not the Local Historic District, meaning it is does not have the same protections

Q2 Financial Report with Chris Todd, Treasurer

- \$250,700 in cash and CDs
- Brought in ~\$9,500 and ~\$15,300 in the first half of 2026
- Collected ~\$4,000 in members dues (about \$1,100 more than we had at this point last year!)
- West Central still has strong savings and remains in good financial shape as we head into the second half of the year.
- Full report available on the website!

Home Beautification Program

- Example eligible projects: soffit, gutter, or porch repair, exterior painting, landscaping
- Must be visible from the street!
- Must be current on membership dues and apply before or within 90 days of the project's completion
- See website for full instructions!

Home & Garden Tour

- All 10 stops confirmed: photos revealed!
- We have \$16,000 in Sponsorships!
- There's still room for ads in the brochure! Email tour@westcentralneighborhood.org
- Tickets will officially be on sale soon!

Announcements:

- Art This Way has a survey for you to have input on the theme for the Broadway Mural! Must submit by 7/31
- Save the Date: Art This Way Fest: Oct 2 and 3
- Submit vacant homes you see in the neighborhood for tracking: vacant@westcentralneighborhood.org

Upcoming Events:

- July 25th: Block Party at Moody Park from 11am to 2pm
- September 12th & 13th: Home & Garden Tour
- October 10th: Movie Night

July Gift Direction

- Every month we give \$250
- Last month the donation went to PRC Greg Manifold Food Pantry
- Gifts must be to a 501(c)3 nonprofit and not used for religious or political purposes
- Nominations: Miss Virginia's Food Pantry was the only nomination. Passed with a majority vote

Other Announcements:

- Volunteers are needed to offer a room for ArtsFest artists to stay during the home tour. Contact Katie Pruitt if you can host: kepruitt@gmail.com
- We currently have 244 Members in the WCNA! This is an increase this year because neighbors are sharing when new folks move into the neighborhood. Thank you and keep it up!

Concluded: 7:36 pm