

Colonial Village Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 28, 2012

Board Members Present: Karl E. Biasi (President), Mike Morofosky (Area 1 Rep), Shawn Cox (Area 2 Rep)

Board Members Excused: Suzanne Salay (Treasurer), Aaron Beavers (Area 3 Rep)

Attendance (Members & Guests): 36

Meeting Called to Order: 7:03 pm

Introductions & Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of Previous Meeting: September 12, 2012

Amendments: None

Motioned for approval, Seconded

Aye: 36 Nay: 0

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$580.87	<i>Sept. 1</i>
Income	\$66.00	-
Expenses	\$421.00	-
Ending Balance	\$225.87	<i>Oct. 31</i>

Notes: Additional income from newsletter envelopes arrived after treasurer's report submitted. Current balance is \$484.00

President's Report

Candidates Night was interesting but not well attended. Next year, Candidates Night might be moved to September, as it was in the past.

Vice President's Report

N/A

Area Representatives Reports

Area 1: Mike has run into some issues with possible animal abuse. Another neighbor helped to coordinate with animal control. Mike is also working on some code compliance issues along MLK. Jessica Yorke (City Council Rep, 4th Ward) is helping to facilitate with the Code Compliance department. Crime reports were distributed. Mike noted that there is not much crime, mainly acts of vandalism and petty theft.

Area 2: Nothing to report

Area 3: Lots of deer are still back in the woods, including a buck with a good-sized rack. There are also a few coyotes, turkeys, and other animals. AT&T has been in the area repairing and updating phone lines. They have been very good about letting neighbors know when they are in the area working and service disruptions have been minimal. If you notice any potholes in your area, contact the city maintenance department at 517-483-4161.

Police Report

N/A

Program

Craig Siner, Owner, Colonial Village Shopping Center

In the past few months, Craig has undertaken some updates, including repairing the parking lot and putting up a great new sign. The Family Dollar opened about 1 month ago, and in its first month has become the 3rd most successful store in the region. Craig is also in lease negotiations with a nice grocery store to fill the remaining space left from the L&L. He hopes to have a lease in place before our next meeting. If the lease gets in place much earlier than expected, he'll communicate with the CVNA to let everyone know. The neighborhood has been great by supporting the businesses in the Colonial Village Shopping Center, even after the L&L closed. It has been helpful for attracting other businesses to the area.

Justine Bell, Program Director, Capital Area Humane Society

The CAHS has received a grant to provide cat spaying/neutering services or free in the 48910 and 48911 zip codes. The procedure will include the surgery, implantation of a microchip, and a rabies vaccine. Owners should bring a driver's license with them to the CAHS to prove zip code eligibility. They have a certain quota of cats to fix this year in order to expand the program next year. If you or someone you know has a cat or multiple cats, contact the CAHS to set up an appointment. If a person you know believes they have too many cats to take advantage of this service, CAHS will send someone over to help out and arrange the surgeries.

City Council Reports

Jessica Yorko, 4th Ward Representative

The mayor's office and the Public Safety Committee have been discussing possible proposals to manage for vicious dogs. There have been some dog bite complaints recently. BWL employees have also had a problem with dog owners letting their dogs out when the BWL employee comes to shut off service. One possible option would be to require additional insurance for owners of pit bulls or other specific breeds. Another option would be to more strongly enforce existing dog confinement/leash laws. Currently, dogs that are outside of a fenced yard and off a leash result in a ticket. At the county level, it is a misdemeanor. Aligning Lansing's law with the county's punishment may be more of a deterrent. Also, the Financial Health Team continues to meet, and their next meeting is January 15th. They are exploring

tax revenue alternatives to balance services and tax rates. They will hopefully have recommendations to the Council soon.

Carol Wood, At Large Representative

Ms. Wood also reiterated that the Public Safety Committee is working on how to handle vicious dogs within the city. Also, the City Council recently passed the International Property Maintenance Code. See the City Council website for full details. After having a hearing about the use of fireworks, the City Council has proposed a statute to mirror the state's statute: fireworks are allowed the day before, day of, and day after a federal holiday. They are looking to pass it through the full Council on 12/10.

A'Lynne Robinson, 3rd Ward Representative

Mrs. Robinson recently created a system for the Ways and Means Committee to handle grant approvals and applications. A template of questions and information that needs to be gathered before deciding on grants has been developed to verify that a systematic approach is taken before accepting or moving forward with grants. At a recent 2nd Saturday meeting, many concerns and complaints about BWL bills and service. Many people have had bills that are multiple times above their normal rates and have gotten poor customer service when they have called to figure out where the error was. The Intergovernmental Council is meeting on December 17 at 11:00 am to speak with BWL officials and figure out solutions to the problems.

Ingham County Report

N/A

Code Compliance Report

N/A

SLCDA Report

The Farm Market in its new location was very successful. They had \$53,000 in credit card and EBT sales. Vendors are not required to report cash sales, so the amount of revenue at the market is certainly higher. The market has a very low cost of entry (\$10 for a drop-in table, \$100 for the season), so many different types of folks can come and sell their products. Also, there were lots of great synergies between vendors, including the use of Lonesome Pines beef for Grace Methodist's Taco Night and pickling kits offered by the jams & jellies vendor to compliment the cucumbers in season at the next table over. The SLCDA garden behind the market is expanding its production with a 3-season hoophouse. They can now farm year round, donating all of their produce to local food banks and soup kitchens. In addition to the garden, the SLCDA has started a 2 acre farm at the corner of Hughes and Pleasant Grove. 85 families, including 75 refugee families, farm the land. Let Kathy Dunbar know if you would like a tour of the farm in the spring or summer. SLCDA is also working to expand the Lansing River Trail into southwest Lansing. A portion has already been completed from Waverly to Jolly. Future plans are to connect that section to the existing River Trail by going through South Lansing.

New Business

Election of Officers

President

Incumbent: Karl Biasi

No other nominations

Motion to close nominations. Motion to vote

Aye: All Nay: 0

Vice President

Nominated: Shawn Cox

No other nominations

Motion to close nominations. Motion to vote.

Aye: All Nay: 0

Secretary

Nominated: Sara Weeden

No other nominations

Motion to close nominations. Motion to vote

Aye: All Nay: 0

Treasurer

Incumbent: Suzanne Salay

No other nominations

Motion to close nominations. Motion to vote

Aye: All Nay: 0

Area 1 Representative

Incumbent: Mike Morofsoky

No other nominations

Motion to close nominations. Motion to vote

Aye: All Nay: 0

Area 2 Representative

Nominated: Michael Markey

No other nominations

Motion to close nominations. Motion to vote

Aye: All Nay: 0

Area 3 Representative

Incumbent: Aaron Beavers

No other nominations

Motion to close nominations. Motion to vote

Aye: All Nay: 0

Christmas Light Committee

A Christmas Light Committee is being formed to evaluate light displays throughout the neighborhood and to decide on prizes for the best displays. Anita and June volunteered and will recruit a third committee member.

Light Post Decorations on Boston Blvd.

In the past, homemade red bows have been put up on light posts along Boston Blvd. It costs approximately \$100 each year to make replacement bows and pay to have them put up. Anita Beavers is heading up a drive for funds and volunteers to get the bows out. Kathy Dunbar and the SLCDA interns volunteered to bring ladders and a pick up truck to put the bows on the light posts. Dennis Corr is going to be looking for large, outdoor-specific bows to purchase, possibly from stores or other businesses liquidating their assets.

Walking Group

The walking group has moved inside to the Harry Hill Middle School Community Center. They are currently walking Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:00 am, doing about 2 miles a session. Call June (517-580-8560) to make sure they are still on that schedule if anyone would like to join up. There is the possibility of Elmhurst being opened at night for walking. The RSVP group, located at Elmhurst, is working with the Walking Group to map the corridors and distances.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:25 pm

Next Meeting: February 20, 2013