



Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes (CVNA) March 18, 2009

President Anita Beavers called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other board members in attendance were Evelyn Bush, Michael Morofsky, David Tkaczyk, and Kathy Miles. Thirty-four CVNA members and guests attended the meeting including Mayor Virg Bernero, his administrative assistant Emma Koppleman, City Council Members Carol Wood, Kathy Dunlap, and Brian Jeffries, City Clerk Chris Swope, and Ingham County Commissioners Dale Copedge and Vic Celentino.

Program Speakers: Ms. Beth Young, Staff Partner of the American Cancer Society presented a video titled "Show Us Your Hope". This video touched on the history and the importance of Relay for Life. This year's Relay for Life will be held on June 5th from 2pm until June 6th at 2pm. It is a 24 hour event at Lansing Catholic Central High School. Funds collected at this event provide research, education, advocacy and many services throughout the local area.

Lansing Police Department: The Lansing Police Department did not provide a report this month, but Anita Beavers with crime activity maps for distribution at a later date.

Minutes: The February 18, 2009 minutes were accepted with no amendments necessary.

President's Report: Anita Beavers announced that the Mayor Advisory Board approved a grant of \$450.00 for the CVNA newsletter. Willie Vinson will represent CVNA at a "Works in a Box" workshop designed to provide ways of giving input into the city's Master Plan. Grace United Methodist Church is seeking the assistance of CVNA to collect spring coats for children. The church will hold a pancake supper on April 24th. No new information is available about the future Lansing Charter Academy off Holmes Rd.

Vice Presidents Report: Evie Bush visited Elmhurst and Cole schools. Both schools are currently registering new kindergarten students. Elmhurst is looking for volunteers for its events. Please contact Evie if you are interested in volunteering.

Treasurer's Report: CVNA holds a balance of \$414.29. There were donations at the last meeting of \$38.75 and expenses for the Ruth Hallman Fund of \$25.00.

Area Representatives Reports:

Area One Representative Michael Morofsky has spoken with Murdock Jemerson, Lansing Parks and Recreation Director to see if the tennis court in Elmhurst Park can be repaired. Mike will also contact LPD regarding front lawn parking on Kelsey. Your local USPS carrier Sue would like to thank neighbors on her route for the great job they did clearing their sidewalks this winter. Lastly, Mike presented some photos taken by Ken Carrigan of a spring crocus.

Area Two Representative Mary Bechtol was unable to attend but reported no business.

Area Three Representative David Tkaczyk reported no business.

City Government Reports:

Council Member Carol Wood reported that the council passed a resolution to ensure that Lansing products and services are included in any national stimulus money. She distributed material regarding Tri-County Alcohol Awareness Essay/Poem contest for students in grades 9-12 and a flyer for the "Healing Fields" – a child abuse prevention flag memorial at Ferris Park from April 23rd – 26th. Carol indicated she would check on street cleaning and reminded those in attendance that yard pickup will begin April 6th. For information on disposing of materials already in bags, call Public Service at 483-4400. Carol reported that she is running for mayor and had information available.

Council Member Brian Jeffries reported on the street restructuring at the corner of Holmes Rd. and Pleasant Grove Rd, CSO projects in our area, and that there will be public hearings on the city budget.

Council Member Kathy Dunbar gave an update on the Southside Farmers Market. Kathy is looking for 150 volunteers to help with the Hawk Island Triathlon on May 31st.

City Clerk Chris Swope reported that May 12th is the deadline for absentee ballots for upcoming elections at that absentee voting increased by 12,000 total votes in the last election. Also, the US Census will be canvassing this spring and summer. Any questions, please call Chris at 483-4131.

Mayor Virg Bernero reported on the cities two recent homicides. LPD has received \$600,000 from the Justice Department and there are ongoing discussions on how to spend that money. The mayor stated that stimulus money amounts are still in a state of flux. The mayor's budget proposal will be presented shortly; there will be public hearings to discuss the budget. Jackson National and Bioport will be hiring jobs in the coming months. The auto industry future is still uncertain but two Lansing plants likely will survive since they are very new.

Ms. Emma Koppleman, the mayor's administrative assistant, distributed copies of "Lansing Now" updates. For further information, please call the mayor's office at 483-4141 or visit the website www.lansingmi.gov/lansingnow

County Commissioner Vic Celentino announced the resurfacing of much of Waverly Road. A new airline, Air Azul, will be providing service from Lansing to New York, Baltimore, and Washington D.C. Ongoing county budget hearings are being held.

County Commissioner Dale Copedge reported on the Capital Area Youth Board program for youth employment over the summer. Also, the Michigan Prisoner Release Program will be releasing 4000 inmates in May. Various programs are designed to address placement and employment issues. Further information will be provided in the coming month.

New Business & Announcements:

- The annual CVNA garage sale will be the first weekend in June (Saturday the 6th, Sunday the 7th)
- Ashley Hill of the Lansing City Market brought information and asked members to fill out a survey of what they would like to see at the new city market. The new market ground breaking ceremony is April 1st.
- Mike Morofsky suggested changing the CVNA telephone number on our meeting signs.
- Neighbors were asked to help keep street sewer drains cleared and dog owners were reminded to properly clean up after their pets.
- Thanks to Kathy Miles, Peg Greer, and L&L for the refreshments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45p.m.