



Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes (CVNA)

April 21, 2004

President Anita Beavers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Board members present: Anne Wilson, Barry Ford, Greg Kozak, Jim Beckwith and Willie Vinson. Thirty-two members and guests were present.

Lansing Police Department Report – Sergeant Wright, Officer Jason Bock and Officer Rob Dingwell provided residents with a map showing activity in the neighborhood and stated things were pretty quiet overall. Sergeant Wright said that she appreciated receiving the letter pertaining to the relocation of Sergeant Whitsitt, however, she will not be able to honor the request and Sergeant Whitsitt must remain on his new assignment.

Steve Woods of Smith Tree & Landscape – presented helpful information on how to control Emerald Ash Borer, lawn grubs and other common yard pests. Smith's Tree and Landscape provides landscape, plant health care, tree trimming and lawn care services. Although unable to endorse specific products, Mr. Woods said Merret and GrubX work well as preventatives, as does warm soapy water. Curative products for active grubs include Sevin, Sylox, and Diazanone or Dylox. He said its best to apply these products in June or July. To determine if you have active grubs, take a shovel and turn over soil. If you find 2-5 grubs, treat with curative products, being sure to read and follow label instructions carefully. Water for 1/2 hour after application and keep children and pets off grass until dry.

To maintain a healthy tree, clear a three-foot circle around the tree and add mulch. To maintain a healthy lawn, aerate instead of rolling your lawn. Lawns should be aerated every year or every other year.

Emerald Ash Borer – this neighborhood is on the cutting edge of the infection. The insect has devastated trees in South Lansing near the Celebration Movie Theater. The product Bayer Advance Garden & Tree and Schruff Insect Control are good preventative products to use.

Additional pest management information can be found on the following websites: MSU Extension – www.emeraldashborer.info, ISA.com and TCIA.com for questions about trees.

Heather Brooks of The Garden Project – distributed a map showing the location of all community garden plots in the area. The Garden Project has been in Lansing for 20 years. They work with schools, associations, and churches to help people grow healthy foods. They also participate with the MSU research GREEENE program. Call in midsummer, late fall to sign-up (517-887-4660 or gardenproject@ingham.org). Registration forms were made available for distribution. They have a warehouse where people can go for equipment and plants. Equipment is available on a check out basis. The project will also provide a rototilling service to residents who may have a spot for backyard garden, but not the necessary equipment. She said Residents in the Quentin Park, Sagamore Hill neighborhood are interested in having a garden plot and CVNA was invited to join them.

Minutes - It was moved and second to accept the Minutes of the March 17, 2004 meeting.

Treasurer's Report - It was moved and second to accept the treasurer's Report. The current bank balance is \$2,185.84. The CVNA City Grant and City Beautification Grant are included in this total.

Vice President's Report – Anne Wilson reported that the Neighborhood in Bloom grant was approved. Volunteers are needed on June 2 between the hours of 12 noon and 6 p.m. to pick up plants. Help is also needed for planting, etc. She also invited residents to join her on May 16 for the Nurse Walk. This is a fundraiser for nursing scholarships. Please contact Anne for more details.

President Reports – Anita Beavers reported that the neighborhood sign project is on hold until written permission is received from the City to allow the installation.

Area One Report – Barry Ford gave Michael Morofsky’s report in his absence. Neighbors upset with the odor caused by burning going on near the pond. The Fire Marshall’s office was contacted and investigated. It appears the contractor is burning equipment metal and trees from the old Drop Forge plant and the odor is causing neighbors distress. They have a permit to burn, but they are being investigated to make sure they are following the rules. Michael is also working with Randy Williams, City Council, on damaged traffic signs in the area.

Area Two Report – Barry Ford reported receiving complaints from neighbors pertaining to the cutting and burning of Forge factory equipment and trees.

Area Three Report – Greg Kozak reported there is concern that the abandoned house at 3147 Boston is not secure. Carol Woods, City Council, will report the problem to the City’s public safety. The auction, scheduled 2/26, has not occurred. Three cars abandoned. Greg Scringer is the interim code compliance officer. His contact information: 483-7620.

Committee Reports

Evelyn Bush –agreed to serve as the chair of the American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life event scheduled June 26- 27, 2004 at Everett High School. She will present more information at the May meeting.

New Business

Carol Wood, City Council representative made a report on proposed options for recycling and composting budget cuts. A copy of her report was presented to the board. Residents were asked to show support for keeping the pick up the same or cutting to every other week pick up of recycling and composting. The vote was split.

Kathy Dunbar, Neighborhood Association, invited residents to sign up to help build the children’s play area at Hawk Island. Construction sign-up times May 19-23, 2004 (7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.). Volunteers will receive free refreshments and meals all but one day. She asked for volunteers to bring a meal to share on that Saturday. She also stated that on May 1, 8 a.m. – noon, there will be a pancake breakfast at Hawk Island to raise funds. The cost is \$5.00 adults, \$3.00 children and a maximum cost of \$15 per family.

Neighborhood News and Announcements

Guest, Jewel Holly introduced herself as a candidate for the Ingham County’s 6th District, which is the area south of Victor Ave.

Dale Copich, Lansing Public Service, introduced himself and announced he is running for an Ingham County Board of Commissioner seat.

Joe McDonald, Virg Bernaro’s office greeted everyone and distributed mini state maps and directory to legislators.

Drawing - Winner of the third drawing (a gift certificate from Subway) was Dale Copich.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held May 19, 2004