



Colonial Village Neighborhood Association (CVNA)

Meeting Minutes

The November 19, 2003 CVNA meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Anita Beavers. Other board members present were: Anne Wilson, Jim Beckwith, Michael Morofsky, Barry Ford, Greg Kozak and Willie Vinson. Forty-eight members were present.

Mr. Brandon C. White, III, Assistant Vice President, Colonial Branch Manager, National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois spoke on credit card use precautions and safety while Holiday shopping. Mr. White said credit card and identify theft can affect anyone including him as he talked about his own experience with this crime. He suggested the following tips.

Safety tips:

- Don't pack all of your cards in your wallet. Most businesses will take Master Card/Visa/Discover cards.
- Report lost or stolen cards immediately.
- Keep track of all receipts. Businesses no longer print the complete credit card number on receipts. For safety reasons they only print the last four digits of the card.
- Don't keep all your cash in one place and don't take it all out at once in the store.
- Use a debit card instead of cash when possible. It's the same as cash in that the funds are taken out of your checking account and they are more secure.
- Read monthly statements. Match all receipts with the statement and report errors immediately.
- Keep a list of all credit cards, account numbers and 1-800 telephone numbers in a safe deposit box for safe keeping and easy access if you need to report missing cards.

Anne Wilson, Vice President CVNA, emphasized the need to report missing cards immediately and talked about her own experience with a stolen credit card two months ago. She was not liable for the \$6,000 worth of merchandise charged because she reported the problem immediately to the proper authorities. She suggested the following five key steps to start the process of reporting identity theft.

- File a police report immediately.
- Make a report with major credit card bureaus.
- Fill out an affidavit pertaining to the loss.
- File a report in Lansing as well as the city and state where charges made.
- File with FTC (Web site: FTC.gov). This allows them to track data.

Identity theft bills are in the Senate now. Anne also suggested keeping purses or personal items on you. Don't leave them sitting in carts unattended.

Shane Silsby, reported on traffic calming issues. Scheduled traffic pattern changes along Mt. Hope Ave. between Pattengill Ave. and Pleasant Grove Rd. have been postponed until further notice to give the Lansing City Council and Administration an opportunity to conduct a more extensive public involvement process. This proposed project was to be completed as part of the Southwest Lansing Non-motorized Corridors grant funded project and would convert Mt. Hope Ave. from 4 travel lanes (two lanes in each direction) to 3 travel lanes (1 lane in each direction with a center left turn lane) and bike lanes on each side adjacent to the curb. He submitted a copy of the report for the record. Contact Anita Beavers to see the report. Public forums will be scheduled to give residents an opportunity to voice concerns.

Neighbors voiced their concern about the lack of parking on Pleasant Grove as a result of the bike path. They also were concerned about the serious safety problems the change may cause. A bigger concern seemed to be none of the neighbors were notified this was going to occur. Residents stated they were not given an opportunity to voice their opinion. Mr. Silsby reported plans were approved two years prior and were just being implemented. In an effort to give Pleasant Grove residents an opportunity to express their specific concerns, a dialog with Mr. Silsby was continued outside the CVNA meeting room.

Officer Andrew Hogan, Lansing Police Department, reported two minor thefts in the area and reminded everyone to be alert especially this time of year. He suggested cars should not be left running unattended because it is not safe and it is a violation (\$75 fine). Gifts should be kept out of site or locked in the trunk of your car. At home don't leave wrapped gifts under tree in front of the window. Keep equipment like snow blowers locked in the garage.

Awards were distributed. The Good Neighbor Award Certificate was issued to Michael Young, L & L Food Center for their contributions and services to the Colonial Village Neighborhood. Darold Rose, Lansing Power Equipment, was awarded the Small Business Certificate of appreciation for his contribution to the neighborhood. His sales and service business is located at Victor and Martin Luther King Blvd. and they service small engines, lawn mowers, snow blowers, etc.

The October meeting minutes were approved and placed on file. Doris Maddough made a motion to accept the minutes. Jackie Schraft seconded the motion.

The treasurer's report was accepted and placed on file. The current bank balance was \$2,122.11.

President's report: Anita Beavers reported Representative Michael Murphy's office sent a letter pertaining to openings on several boards. If interested contact Anita Beavers. Neighbors were asked to be generous with donations. Money collected at the meeting would be donated to Grace United Methodist Church food drive. There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 21, 2004.

Vice President's Report: Anne Wilson thanked L & L Shop Rite for treats served during the meeting. Everyone was reminded to sign the sign-in sheet. Doing so will help CVNA obtain grants. Winners of the neighborhood Christmas home decorations contest will receive a gift certificate. Everyone was reminded of the Veterans Day Parade in downtown Lansing and invited to visit the MI Military Museum in Frankenmuth.

Area One Report: Michael Morofsky introduced the new code compliance officer, Joe Jardin. He also reported a few problems with loud music late at night. He said Lansing plans to end the pick up of yard waste on December 1. He reported a bike was stolen from an open garage on Marion Ave. between Woodbine and Gordon. He reported two letters were written to Mayor Benavides and City Council pertaining to the problem of proposed crosswalk on Marion Ave. at Woodbine Ave and Resolution 044. Copies were submitted for the record.

Area Two Report: Barry Ford reported everything was quiet in Area two with the exception of a couple problems with trash.

Area Three Report: Greg Kozak reported he encountered a problem with debris in front of a couple homes and that the "We Buy Homes" signs posted in the area were in violation and they have been removed.

Committee/Project Reports: June Kenfield said the red bows are being made and donated, but need volunteers to assist with putting these bows on the light posts. Randy Williams volunteered to help. Anita Beavers and Anne Wilson distributed gifts for volunteers who delivered newsletters door-to-door. Anita presented the book pertaining to the history of Colonial Village that is in the process of being created and thanked Evelyn Bush for work she did on the book.

Old Business: The Colonial Village Neighborhood sign committee was not successful in getting permission from MDOT to place the neighborhood sign at the corner of Mt. Hope and Martin Luther King Blvd. Mitchell Whisler, Traffic Calming, volunteered to work with June Kenfield and find out if the sign could be placed in the island on Boston near Mt. Hope.

New Business: CVNA need volunteers to serve on the calling committee, the posting of meeting signs, deliver semi-annual newsletters door-to-door, to hang red bows on street lights and to help with special projects. A sign-up sheet was provided. Volunteering to post meeting signs were Jackie Schraft and Suzanne Williams. Janelle Fisher volunteered to serve on the call list committee. To volunteer call Anita Beavers at 882-0015.

Neighborhood News and Announcements: Joe McDonald, Legislative Aide State Senator Virg Bernero thanked everyone for their support during the election, mentioned programs available through Senator Bernero's office and distributed materials. Victor Celentino, Ingham County Commission, announced that the Commission's 2004 budget passed. All budget items were kept at the same level. He also distributed Commission materials and announced he was selected to Chair the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.