



Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes (CVNA)

February 18, 2004

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

Lansing Police Department Report - Officer Brian Whitsitt reported on the status of the new computer system.

City Council Report – City Council Report: "Carol Wood reported the Public Service Dept. has investigated complaints of questionable water meter readings. Anyone who believes their meter reading is inaccurate should contact BWL at 702-6006; anyone finding abnormal water usage increases, low water pressure, or dirt or sand or dust or scale in toilets should contact the Public Service Dept at 483-4455. Ms Wood also reported the council is still reviewing bike lanes in the area and that the first and third ward public budget meetings will be held prior to the next CVNA meeting. A more complete budget report will be available at the next CVNA meeting.

Randy Williams announced the Williams family is moving from the CVNA area to the Lewton/Rich area, however, he said he and Suzanne plan to continue be around. He also reported the vacant lot, southeast corner, Martin Luther King Blvd. and Mt. Hope is available because of unpaid back taxes. It may be possible to place the Association's sign on this lot providing CVNA is willing to maintain the property year round. Councilman Williams also asked residents to submit articles, events or other information for the 3rd Ward's newsletter.

Mike Zdbeski - Elmhurst PTA, School Playground Equipment – Enrollment is 300, up from 240. New chairs have been added in the computer lab, two family dances have been held and the Merry-go-round has been removed from the playground for safety reasons.

Sara Cotton - Michigan Early Childhood Center – is one of the first charter schools to form in Lansing and the second to form in the state. It was a nursery school prior to becoming a charter school. Enrollment is 187. Capacity is 200. There are 11 certified teachers and six assistants. Students are taught at their learning level. Adult/student ratio is 1 to 13. Visitors and tours are welcome. A permanent sign with the school's new name (Cole Academy) will soon replace the temporary sign in front of the building.

Bill Straham - Poem "The Walking Couple," The Grahams – The Graham family received flowers and was honored with a poem that was written for the Village Walkers (Ruth and Morris Graham) who are both deceased. A column, written by John Schneider of the Lansing State Journal, about the couple and their daily walks through the neighborhood was also read. This loving couple will be missed.

Minutes - It was moved and second by Connie Travers to accept the Minutes of the January 18, 2004 meeting with a correction. "A man, trying to break into cars on Rockway December 4, was not caught. "

Treasurer's Report - It was moved and second by Doris Middaugh to accept the treasurer's Report. The current bank balance is \$2,163.34.

Vice President's Report – Birthday announcements for Caitlin Ford and Randy Williams. A special thank you was extended to L&L Food Center for providing refreshments. June Kenfield was nominated for the Bea Christy Award, an award for exceptional neighborhood volunteers. Although June did not receive the award, she received the Association's appreciation and a beautiful painting as door prize.

Volunteers are needed to assist Anne Wilson with the Neighborhood in Bloom grant. Please contact Anne for more details. Shane Silsby told Anne the City of Lansing plans to provide larger plants in the islands.

President Reports – A board meeting was held on 2/12/04. Members were asked to submit their CVNA meeting agenda suggestions to Anita Beavers. The Association plans to attend the Mt Hope Construction project public meeting and afterward participate in a joint meeting of adjoining Neighborhood Associations. CVNA has initiated a door prize drawing to be held at each meeting. Residents are reminded to sign in at each meeting to be eligible. Winners of the first drawing (a \$10 Rite Aide gift certificate) were Paul and June Kenfield. Anita Beavers was pleased to announce the wonderful participation of businesses in both the Colonial Village mall and the Martin Luther King and Holmes Rd. mall. You must be present to win a door prize.

Area One Report –Mr. Morofsky and Councilman Randy Williams met to review the two options presented by Mitch Whisler, Transportation Department, to resolve the Woodbine and Marion Avenue corner problem and decided option A (installation of a raised intersection) would meet the needs of the school children and other pedestrians best. (2) Lansing Power Equipment is closed. (3) Councilman Williams contacted public service about the problem of residents leaving both Granger and city trash carts out between the sidewalk and curb for weeks. Residents are asked to report similar problems. (4) The reporting of crime in the non-neighborhood watch areas issue is still open. June Kenfield sent Captain Lawrence another email and Councilman Williams agreed he would investigate this issue through the public safety committee. (5) Officer Whitsitt reported no resolution yet on the Marion St nuisance issue. Mike's full report is available upon request.

Area Two Report- Barry Ford reported the empty house on Loraine is now a HUD home for sale. He gave kudos to neighbors cleaning snow from other neighbors' sidewalks the area.

Area Three Report – Greg Kozak reported on a foreclosure sale at 3417 Boston and thanks the police for their handling of an abandoned Pontiac Bonneville on Pleasant Grove.

Committee Reports

June Kenfield – Grants and CVNA sign - Because of the cost of printing the two-page CVNA newsletter, the Association needs to think of alternative ways to fund it. The Neighborhood Council may help by making copies. A grant was also submitted to the Council for \$100 toward funding the CVNA summer picnic. June will work with Councilman Williams to place the sign on the southeast corner of Martin Luther King and Mt. Hope.

Willie Vinson – Website (www.CVNAnews.com) Update: "Randy Williams who created the CVNA website has moved from Colonial Village. However, he will continue to assist the new website committee. The committee will meet Saturday, Feb 21, 2004 at Anita Beavers' home. Anyone interested and experienced in building websites is asked to call Willie Vinson (482-8724) or Anita Beavers (882-0015).

New Business –

- It was moved and second to extend an honorary CVNA membership to Randy and Suzanne Williams.
- Anita Beavers reported the CVNA brochures have been updated with stickers showing new officers.
- Volunteers are needed to distribute newsletters. Volunteer sign up sheets were made available.
- Ms Randy Abood, PTA President, Dwight Rich Middle School reported two objectives. A new school sign outside the building and parents resource room. The school may soon dissolve into a Science, Math and Technical Magnet School. An ad hoc committee has been established to discuss criteria for a standardized dress code. A district wide blood drive is coming up – possibly in May. Also, kids are willing to do community service for a CVNA project.

Neighborhood News and Announcements

Victor Celentino's, Ingham County Commissioner, mother passed. Kathy Dunbar, South Lansing Community Development Coordinator, distributed copies of their newsletter and reported the newsletter is taking advertisement and seeking articles. It contains information on City zoning issues, calendar of events, other community news.

Hawk Island Park is seeking over 1,000 volunteers to help build a children's playground May 19 – May 23. Although the City Council allocated funding for this project, it can't be completed without volunteers and donations of money and tools.

June Kenfield reported the North Lansing, Delta River Drive community needs help with the delivery of meals for Meals on Wheels. Meijer's will no longer be able to deliver meals on Monday and volunteers are needed to replace this resource.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held March 17, 2004