



Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes (CVNA)

January 21, 2004

The January 21, 2004 CVNA meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Anita Beavers. Other Board members present: Anne Wilson, Jim Beckwith, Michael Morofsky, Barry Ford, and Willie Vinson. Thirty-six members were present.

Lansing Police Department Report - Sgr. Wright and Officer Jason Boggs said there were two home invasions reported in the area. Two young men were apprehended and jailed for these crimes. Residents were asked to keep cars off the street, when possible, for snow removal and to keep garage doors closed during the night to avoid theft.

Holiday Lighting Competition – Winners received gift certificates donated from L&L Food Center and Hollywood Video. Businesses and participating homeowners received special thanks.

1st Place: The Wyatt Family, 2519 Concord, was awarded an L&L Food Center gift certificate

2nd Place: Jon & Marian Wilford, 1710 Peggy Place received a Hollywood Video Gift Certificate

3rd Place: Amy & William Lerner, 1705 Rockway received a giant blow up Santa

4th Place: Mark & Vickie Deason, 3036 Boston Blvd. received a gift certificate

CSO Project Review – all major construction in Colonial Village areas (37A and 37B) were completed according to Chad Gamble, Lansing Assistant Engineer. Expect restoration and hump installations to be completed by May. 2008 is the next expected construction in the area. He said improvements made to the CSO process are:

- New weed, watering, seed specifications.
- Web site changes include the addition of “037” type construction maps. These maps will show motorist major construction areas to avoid.
- The weekly meetings that were successful in bringing businesses and residents together with contractors, city engineers and everyone involved in the project proved to be the best communication tools and will continue.

“Paint a Place” - Bill Houghtaling, director, described the project as a 501C organization that paint and fix up homes and other buildings for low income, seniors, and handicapped individuals. These projects are accomplished with the help of volunteers, teen challenge groups, and donations from organizations like CVNA. The association can participate by volunteering to work on an existing project, choose a CVNA project, or make a donation towards the purchase of supplies or other needed items. Cheryl Risner, Lansing Neighborhood Council and Kathy Dunbar, Neighborhood Association of Michigan complimented Mr. Houghtaling and gave him and the “Paint a Place” organization a great endorsement.

December 2003 minutes - were approved and placed on file.

Treasurer’s report - was accepted and placed on file. The current bank balance is \$2,137.34.

President’s report: June Kentfield, Past President of Colonial Village Neighborhood Association, has been nominated to receive the Bea Christy Award for her hard work and dedication. The Bea Christy Award celebrates the hard work of neighborhood volunteers. The event will be held 5:30 p.m., February 6, 2004, at the Lansing Center, 333 East Michigan Ave. Contact Anita Beavers for information.

Steven Gurwich was thanked for his card of well wishes and \$20.00 donation. The City Council, Lansing Police Department, Area and State Representatives were thanked for their holiday cards. Jeff Campbell, Gordon Food Service, received the good neighbor award in appreciation of Contributions and Services during CVNA’s summer picnic. The award will be delivered to him.

Vice President report: L&L Food Service received a special thank you for the treats being served at the meeting. Anne Wilson and Anita Beavers attended Lansing Neighborhood Council's President and Vice Presidents Dinner. Everyone was reminded to sign in because doing so helps CVNA with grant applications.

A grant proposal was submitted for a Lansing's Neighborhood in Bloom grant. This grant will fund the planting and upkeep of flowers in the newly installed islands and supplement signs at Holly Park, Elmwood Park and Elmhurst School. Volunteers are needed to pick up flowers, supervise planting of flowers, donate tools for planting, and periodically check the areas for watering, weeding and general maintenance. Volunteers are also needed to serve on various other committees such as the Calling Committee, Grant Committee, Special activities and events committee, meeting refreshments committee, Web Site committee, and Newsletter delivery. See Anne Wilson to volunteer.

Area One Report: Michael Morofsky reported

- No response received to the letter sent to Tony Benavides and City Council pertaining to the problem of proposed crosswalk on Marion Ave at Woodbine Ave and Resolution 044.
- The phone list has been updated and June Kentfield volunteered to work with him on crime reporting procedure.
- A man, trying to break into cars on Rockway December 4, was caught.

Area Two Report: Barry Ford reported he received a call in December about a well-dressed pan- handler, riding a 10-speed bike around the area, going from door to door asking for money. If you spot the person, report it. Do not give him money.

Area Three Report: Greg Kozak was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. He submitted his reported. The Hot and Now Restaurant on Martin Luther King Blvd is going out of business.

Committee/Project Reports: The Red Bow project was a success. The Red Bow committee volunteers were thanked for their excellent work. Cheryl Risner, Lansing Neighborhood Council, said the Council offers grants to offset the cost of projects like the Red Bow project and suggested coordinating with Kathy Dunbar next year, to extend the Red Bows all the way down Boston Blvd. She said the Council also issues Stipends up to \$300 to finance parties and grants for various beautification projects. She suggested CVNA submit a proposal.

Old Business: It appears the city may buy the land on the corner of MLK and Mt Hope. If so, it may then become possible to place the Neighborhood sign in that area. If this happens, CVNA will be responsible for upkeep of flowers, weeding and snow removal in the winter. A motion was introduced and passed to continue the pursuit of placing the sign at the corner of MLK and Mt Hope.

New Business: Anita Beavers thanked Diane Carrigan and others for bringing pictures of their flower gardens for display. She encouraged everyone to bring more photos to create a display all around the meeting room.

Neighborhood News and Announcements: Victor Celentino, Ingham County Commission reported he has been elected chair of the commission. Commissioner Celentino's column appears every three months in the Community Newspaper. The latest issue includes 2003 Commission accomplishments for all counties. He introduced Mr. Lynch, out-going Chair of the Commission, who has served the Colonial Village and surrounding areas for well over 10 years. He has decided to seek election as Judge and not run again as commissioner.

Third Ward Council member Randy Williams reported Joan Bauer's election as Chair of the City Council and Sandy Allen, as Vice Chair. He also reported that there would not be any further work done on Boston, Mt. Hope, Pleasant Grove and Holmes until meetings are held with citizens to discuss the bike lane corridor project.

Councilman Brian Jeffries reported five positions are being considered for cut as a result of the 1.2 – 1.3 \$ Mil. State budget reduction. The Council is also working to restore and improve police and fire protection. There will be two Budget meetings. One meeting will be held in the north part of town and another in the south part of town. It is critical that citizens attend these meetings to voice their opinions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.