



**Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes
(CVNA)
November 19, 2008**

President Anita Beavers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other board members in attendance were Evelyn Bush, Michael Morofsky, Mary Bechtol, Thelma Dempsey and Willie Vinson. Thirty-two CVNA members and guests attended the meeting including, City Council member Carol Wood; Joe McDonald from the Mayor's Office; Officer Jason Bock, Lansing Police Department; Mary Brinks of Neighborhood Watch; Ingham County Commissioners Victor Celentino and Dale Copedge; .

Program Speaker: Hon. Judge Amy Krause said the City of Lansing takes domestic violence issues seriously. The Batterers Prevention Program has received national recognition. A brochure entitled, "Relationship Violence Hurts" was distributed. It contained information for those who have been hurt by a loved one in an ongoing relationship. She urged everyone to be aware of friends, relatives and neighbors who may be experiencing abuse. She said if convicted of abuse, the person must call and get enrolled in the Batterers Prevention program. If they don't, a warrant for their arrest is issued. They find that if held accountable and its immediate it makes a difference in the person's progress.

There is help and she wants to make sure people know where they can get the help they need. She urged anyone to call if they witness abuse. It does not have to be the person being abused. You don't have to testify, but calling may save a life. Prosecution can be accomplished without the person being battered/abused doing the reporting. Support services are available through counseling support, advocacy services, shelter, personal protection, and through the 24 hour crisis line at (517) 372-5572.

Lansing Police Department: Officer Jason Bock's report included information pertaining to a man that was caught in the process of breaking and entering of Dr. Graesser's office. The man was caught because of a neighbor's call. In addition, a house on Rundle Street west of Boston was raided for drugs. Officer Bock also reminded everyone ordinance against raking leaves into the street. He said two new officers have been assigned to our area and announced 2009 Citizen's Police Academy and Neighborhood Watch training dates are being set. A 30 day team Area 9 offense map, dated November 19, 2008, was also distributed.

Minutes: September 17, 2008 minutes were accepted with one change to include Jerry Ambrose's last name. Meet the Candidates event was held on October 15, 2008. No minutes were taken.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's reports were accepted as submitted for the months of: August 2008, September 2008, and October 2008. A balance of \$710.28 was reported for October.

President's Report: Anita Beavers gave a thank you present to each of the calling committee members and to Peg Greer and Kathy Miles for their refreshment service. Anita also presented Michael Morofsky with the task of giving a thank you present to the anonymous donor who contributed \$500 for the neighborhood sign.

Vice President Report: Evie Bush reported that schools in the area are looking for tutors and Elmhurst School is seeking volunteers to join the PTA. Their numbers are small and anyone can help. You don't need to have children attend the school to participate.

Area Representatives Reports:

Area One Representative Michael Morofsky reported he had turned area problems over to Gregg Schrimger and the Mayor's office. He presented photos of problem areas. He also reported that Rail

Road tracks located on South Washington were once again in need of repair. The situation was turned over to Dean Johnson.

Area Two Representative: Mary Bechtol reported all is well in her area. She had received no calls.

Area Three Representative No reports were made for this area.

Lansing City Council: Carol Wood reported on all the activities of the City Council including the new Cell Tower construction ordinance. In September it passed and placed a moratorium on placement of cell towers. If a company wants to locate a tower outside an industrial area, they will need to pay a fee and explain why it is necessary. If it is placed in a neighborhood, the money set aside should cover any problems. The Neighborhood Stabilization Grant is expected to pass on 11/24/08. Residents were asked to go on the website and make suggestions and or comments. She also touched on homes in foreclosure being purchased, rehabbed, and sold. Those homes that cannot be rehabbed will be torn down. The website shows 842 houses gone through foreclosure. Carol reported that the police radio system problem is 99.9% resolved.

Mayor's Office: Joe McDonald reported on the City's sesquicentennial celebration in 2009. Find out more go to the website at www.lansing150.com. Also, the City's annual Silverbells event in downtown; Old Town on December 6 and 7 will have a holiday party. Dickens characters from a Christmas Carroll will be walking the street and carriage rides will be offered. The Southside Community Center project signed a lease with the School District and DLZ Construction signed a contract and will be working through the school district.

Ingham County Commission Reports: Victor Celentino reported that the 2009 Ingham County budget was passed and they will not have to lay people off. Instead, they have unfilled positions they will not fill. As a result they only lost one person. He said that Allegiant Air is leaving Lansing Airport. Also, he did not believe the airport should raise fees. He is working with Clinton and Eaton County for assistance with the airport.

Neighborhood Watch: Mary Brinks, Lansing Neighborhood Watch Coordinator for Colonial Village Area invited residents to consider becoming a Citizen's Police Officer by attending Citizens Police Academy. She also announced she has not received any feedback from the literature that was distributed with the newsletter so far.

New Business & Announcements:

- **Election of Officers** - The following officers were elected and will take office at the January 21, 2009 meeting: President, Anita Beavers; Vice President, Evelyn Bush; Secretary, Emily Bourne; Treasurer, Kathy Miles; Area One Representative, Michael Morofsky; Area Two Representative, Mary Bechtol; Area Three Representative, David Tkczyk.
- **Bea Christy Awards** - This award is given annually to a person nominated by a Neighborhood Association. She asked members to think of someone from Colonial Village who may be nominated this year and let her know so she can submit the information to the Award's committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.