

COLONIAL VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Minutes September 15, 2010

Present: Anita Beavers, Evie Bush, June Kenfield, Mike Morofsky, Bill Matt and Kathy Miles. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance was 32.

Police Report: Officer Angie Taylor reported thefts from unlocked cars. The shooting on Loraine is still under investigation and no additional information is available at this time. The graffiti at 2518 Pattengil has been removed and Mike will follow up to get it removed from the sidewalk. People walking at night have reported cars blocking sidewalks. The police are issuing tickets to correct this problem. Officer Taylor assured us that the LPD is aware of problem houses in the neighborhood and is working on them.

Speaker: Pat Hemingway of the Capitol Area United Way informed us that United Way has much more than a fundraising function. They are a leader in organizing and facilitating volunteer groups and also have a Management series. Dialing 211 can refer you to many resources. Her talk addressed the strengths and differences in trying to maximize abilities of different generations and getting them to work together. Attitudes and experiences can make this very challenging but an understanding of it is essential for good functions in groups.

They do make referrals for court-ordered community service but with very careful attention to background. Pat is a very dynamic speaker and gave a most interesting talk. For a calendar of their service projects for the year, go to www.volunteermidmichigan.org. Pat's number is 517-203-5022 if there are questions you have for her.

Minutes were voted on and accepted.

Treasurers Report: June reported that our balance from 5-30 was \$1,897.58. Donations totaled \$450.00. Expenses were \$1,186.04, with most of that being used for the annual picnic and printing of newsletters. Our ending balance of 8-31 is \$1,161.54. She mentioned that we do not expect much in the way of income in the near future, so we will have to be diligent in conserving resources. Anita reported that another newsletter will be distributed soon.

Area One: Mike reported some incidences of residents tripping on uneven sidewalks. Carol Wood will turn those addresses over to Public Service for attention. A question was asked about the contract for resurfacing the tennis courts at Elmhurst school. Carol said that the contract has been awarded and a meeting will be held Monday to finalized details. The work should be done this fall. Mike will be running for representative again in November.

Area Two: Mary had nothing to report and was absent.

Area Three: Bill had no report but mentioned he will be running as representative again.

Vice President: Evie informed us that Elmhurst got a good report in the MEAP reading category and that Elmhurst and Cole academy are always in need of volunteers. She will not be running for another term and feels that it is time for new direction in the association.

Suzanne Salay, Website Producer, reported that at last count the web-site registered 174 visits. She is still revising the site and says there is now a link to Neighborhood Watch. There is an

interesting story of how Holly Park came to be on the site. There are also potential plans to add a Face book feature in the future. You are encouraged to check out the web page and see the improvements.

City Council: Carol Wood mentioned that in addition to our Candidates night on 10-20, there will be on at Foster community center on 10-6 at 6:00 pm. The council is revising the fireworks ordinance to bring it in line with changes made at the State level. The Fire Marshall will be increasing oversight of businesses selling illegal fireworks. A bill has been introduced to allow large fireworks, currently banned, to be legalized in Michigan. This bill has already passed the House. If you have concerns regarding this, you are encouraged to contact Gretchen Whitmer's office 373-1734.

The Medical Marijuana act approved by voters is being clarified. Currently the focus is on defining how many plants a patient may have and how they get qualified as a patient. The designation of Caregiver is also being defined and parameters established as to how many patients they may have as well as the number of plants they may grow. It was also mentioned that Hydraworld on Barnes advertises it will buy marijuana for \$4,000 per pound.

A question was asked regarding a resident using his indoor fireplace as an incinerator and burning trash and garbage. The Fire Marshall's office needs information referring which ordinance to cite when issuing a ticket. Carol will forward that to the Fire Marshall's office. The Snow ordinance has been revised. The ticketing process will be "complaint driven". Public service will come out and take a picture and then send a letter. Two days later, if the snow is still not shoveled, Public Service will shovel the walk and place a lien on the property. The owner will have 60 days to pay the fine. Carol also mentioned that if you have a corner lot, you will be responsible for clearing the crosswalk. The "Snow Angels" program was discontinued for lack of funding but she suggested calling 211 for possible help from churches.

Code Enforcement: Walter noted concern about a dead tree in the front yard at 2038 Peggy Place. Questions were asked about the house on Mt. Hope that has been an eyesore for months. A temporary permit was given for improvement but no work has been done. A police raid took place when it was discovered that the basement was being used for growing marijuana. That person had been designated as a "caregiver". Action should be taken soon on the house.

President: Anita reminded us that Candidates night is 10-20 and 70 letters were sent out alerting candidates of this opportunity to be heard. The November meeting will have election of Board officers and the speaker will be someone from Neighborhood Watch. Anita will be stepping down as president and gave a synopsis of the time it takes to fulfill the duties of that office. She said it takes about 5 to 7 hours a month; 12 hours for the annual picnic; 8 hours on the Newsletter; 5 hours for Board meetings. Overall, it takes about 60 hours for the year. She is still hoping someone will step forward and volunteer for this rewarding position.

Kathy Miles announced a Gluten Free Fair for those with allergies to it will be held at the South Church of the Nazarene, 401 W. Holmes on September 25th from 10:00 to 2:00.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35. km