



HISTORIC SOUTHWOOD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 12991-FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46866-2991



Agenda of the Board of Directors Meeting July 11, 2012 – 7PM Friendly Fox Coffee Shop – 4001 South Wayne Avenue

- I. Call to Order -- The meeting was called to order by Steve McCord at 7:05
 - A. The following Board members were in attendance:
 - Cheryl McCarthy
 - Pat Thomson, Vice President
 - Andy Boxberger
 - Brittney Collins
 - Brooks Beatty
 - Blaise Moore
 - Lisa Oberlin
 - Steve McCord, President
 - Charles Northrop, Treasurer.
 - B. Members Absent:
 - Steve Nagy
 - David Goodman
 - Diane Dickson
 - Kasey Krouse
 - Ryan Keirns, Secretary
 - Lori Keys
- II. Open Forum for Residents' Concerns – There were no residence in attendance, but resident concerns that were addressed directly with Board Members were shared. Blaise reported resident concern for bazaar being held at Foster Park on Sundays that includes racks of clothing, etc being sold. Board suggested that residence using the park need to call 311 to report concern to Parks Department through the week or on weekends call the Police Department's Sergeant desk (260) 427-1222. The bazaar is being set up across from the golf course by the tennis courts.

Lisa reported resident concern that during the power outage neighbors shared power by duck taping a cord across the street. A nearby neighbor felt that this presented a danger, and discovered that it is illegal. That neighbor asked that the board share that this behavior is illegal to do for future outages.
- III. Acceptance of May 2012 Minutes – Steve McCord
No correction were needed to the May 2012 minutes; Pat requested they be accepted and Charles seconded
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Charles Northrop

Corrections: Steve requested that the title of the report change from *Second Quarter* to *July 2012*. Reports are no longer on a quarterly basis.

Board noted a significant balance and discussed future expenditures. Steve will request an updated quote to repair pillars citing they need mortared and with time it will only get more expensive. Motion to look into expense was accepted.

V. Committee Business

A. Beautification – Pat Thomson

There is a drought. Jill Borkenstein has taken over watering at the garden on Westover and Beaver. She purchased mulch which Pat reimbursed her. Motion to reimburse Pat for the expense was passed. Rainbow Tree Service is now contracted with the neighborhood. Pat is going to continue surveying trees in neighborhood to mark for treatment. Discussed tree care, encourage watering newly planted trees along the street; several are struggling with the drought.

B. Membership

1. Security: patrol, FWPD reports – Steve McCord reported on Maxine and Tacoma police arrived for underage drinking and loud music, on 4716 Tacoma exterior fire, and several calls regarding the mess after the storm.

2. Discussed the ‘For Rent’ sign on Indiana – The house is grandfathered as a rental. Board reviewed the restriction on rentals and only owner occupied ends the rental grandfathered status.

3. Discussed homes that have poor upkeep. The award home is a wonderful motivational tool, but there are a few properties that continually have poor curb appeal with overgrown grass and weeds. Charles suggested additional motivation of a matching grant using the example of West Central who does 2 or 3 match grants up to \$5,000 for beatification efforts. The Board discussed logistics and felt that a matching grant that included direct reimbursement on work completed should be considered further. Steve will request from West Central neighborhood information on their grant and tree program. Board also discussed grant options to buy homes to flip as a future initiative.

C. Nomination – nothing to report. The board is encouraged to start recruiting as several positions are vacating.

D. Finance – Have not met to date but do have some initiatives that may require a meeting in the near future. In order to stream line billing for dues and other mailers the Finance Committee has to come up with a way to automate how to get excel information to turn into a mailer that could include years owed and hopeful interest. The board also discussed becoming more aggressive with Liens on properties that continually do not pay dues. Andy will provide the form to Steve and the committee will start filing liens. Andy provided basic information regarding the lien process; you have to refile them every year, there is a cost to file (approx cost would be \$20 each time), it is not necessary to hire a lawyer just fill out the form and file yourself, the association will

receive payment when the house sells at closing. Cheryl made a motion to start placing liens for houses two years behind in dues. Notices will be sent out prior and the finance committee needs to look into ways to self-populate these letters or notices.

E. Public Relations - Several nice comments from Wildwood Park for our neighborhood sponsoring the ARCH-Wildwood Park Home and Garden Tour.

F. SWAP Reports –

A. May - Diane

Discussion on the 1.5 Million allocated by Major Henry for tree cutting, revitalization for Quimby Village, and Ambassador acquiring property north of Rudisill. Cindy Joyner discussed adjustments to city ordinances, Shan Gunawardena discussed plans to straighten roads in Eastbrook/Westbrook neighborhood, and a neighborhood concern about not respecting historically integrity was discussed.

B. June – Pat

Judge Scheibenberger presented on enforcement of drug house selling, drugs, gambling, prostitution, druglords arrest/evict, and the emergency eviction fast track program. Also a note that Mary Hutler as community liaison was replaced. Fire department presented on draught hazards

VI. Continuing Business

A. Foster Park Centennial picnic – Lisa reported on needs for the picnic that Southwood Park is hosting. The items have been purchased. It is unknown how many people will attend the picnic so as much help as possible is being requested between the hours of 3 pm and 9 pm approximately. Steve will send another request to Facebook readers. Lisa took a list of volunteers and phone numbers. Contact her with your availability on July 27 for the times of 3 pm to 9 pm for set up, clean up, and ongoing needs.

B. 4210 Drury Lane cleanup – Praise was given to the wonderful neighbors that did tree removal and clean up of the abandoned property. Home continues in limbo state—Chase continues to not claiming the home. Andy believes that the estate could be forced open by Southwood Park Association as a creditor, he will investigate this option. The drought has cut back on routine care needed for the home. Charles brought up concern that board should take no stance beyond encouraging neighbors to continue being neighborly.

VII. New Business

A. Association Block Party is scheduled for August 11th – Blaise Moore
Budget last year was close to \$800. Need to assess what we have and what we need. Pat will do the petition for the neighbors. Blaise requested pop-up tents. Steve suggested a Membership committee meeting to assist with planning. Discussed if a mailer was necessary, decision was tabled for the membership

meeting. Tentative meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 17 at Blaise's home at 7 pm, she will confirm time with Steve and he will send out an e-mail with time for meeting.

B. Fairmont Association annexation movement.

Fairmont board has stated that one block has unanimous consent; Board agrees that there is a need to investigate that block strongly for immersion. If continued interest by the rest of Fremont to annex than voluntary agreement needs to be continuous from house-to-house, such as the reported block. Further communication between Southwood Park President and Fairmont Board is needed to ensure they know are covenants, discussed presenting at a Fairmont Board meeting to ensure that they will comply if annexed. Fairmont has had recent neighborhood efforts with a fall festival and mulch day initiatives. Steve and Andy will request meeting with their 4 board members to discuss logistics and gather information to report at next board meeting. The difficulty with annexing is that each house has to voluntarily join. Board discussed logistics of potential annexed homes and what makes sense to expand the neighborhood.

VIII. For the Good of the Order

Cheryl brought an option to the Board to help sponsor the air show on Labor Day weekend. Also they need volunteers see Cheryl if you are interested. Cheryl will request addition information for sponsorship.

IX. Adjournment - The meeting ended at 8:45 pm

Next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at the Friendly Fox.

After adjournment of the meeting, it was decided that initial discussions for developing a strategic plan and mission statement for the Association will take place through e-mail dialogues between board members initiated by Steve McCord.

Respectfully submitted, Brittney Collins, July 23, 2012.